

MD State Curriculum: Science Grade 6 Lesson Plan
Virtual Rainforest Scavenger Hunt

Topic:

F. Ecology

Indicator:

- * 1. Give reasons supporting the fact that the number of organisms an environment can support depends on the physical conditions and resources available.

Objective:

- b. Identify and describe factors that could limit populations within any environment, such as disease, introduction of a nonnative species, depletion of resources, etc.

PART 1: EXPLORE

In pairs, explore the following websites, look at all the different types of species, pay attention to how they interact with the environment:

- A. http://www.nationalgeographic.com/features/00/earthpulse/rainforest/index_flash.html
- B. <https://www.msu.edu/~urquhart/tour/active.html>
- C. http://www.field-trips.org/tours/sci/rainforest/_tourlaunch1.htm

Ecology is the study of the relation of living organisms to each other and their surroundings. Ecology includes the study of plant and animal populations, plant and animal communities and ecosystems. Ecologists study a range of living phenomena from the role of bacteria in nutrient recycling to the effects of tropical rain forest on the Earth's atmosphere.

PART 2: RESEARCH

From each site, chose at least 3 species. In the provide sections below, provide three ecological factors of the species.

Species 1: _____

Habitat	Diet	Defense Mechanisms

Species 2: _____

Habitat	Diet	Defense Mechanisms

Species 3: _____

Habitat	Diet	Defense Mechanisms

Species 4: _____

Habitat	Diet	Defense Mechanisms

Species 5: _____

Habitat	Diet	Defense Mechanisms

Species 6: _____

Habitat	Diet	Defense Mechanisms

Species 7: _____

Habitat	Diet	Defense Mechanisms

Species 8: _____

Habitat	Diet	Defense Mechanisms

Species 9: _____

Habitat	Diet	Defense Mechanisms

Species 10: _____

Habitat	Diet	Defense Mechanisms

PART 3: VOCABULARY

Define the following terms based on what you learned from your virtual fieldtrip:

Canopy: _____

Deforestation: _____

Ecosystem: _____

Greenhouse effect: _____

Indigenous: _____

Rainforest: _____

Species: _____

Tropical: _____

Vegetation: _____

